

SJSU Cares helps students meet their basic needs

The SJSU Cares program provides students who lack basic needs, such as food and housing insecurity, with the opportunity to housing and food access. Students can have their problems heard and seek future solutions. Similar to a signpost, SJSU Cares helps inform and direct students to resources that they may not know on campus.

Students can schedule meetings with Marko Mohlenhoff, the student affairs case manager for SJSU Cares. He’s available Monday to Friday in the Financial Aid & Scholarship Office in the Student Services Center, with meetings usually lasting an hour. Students are expected to take advantage of all of the existing financial resources available to them, such as student loans and grants before pursuing other resources.

Listed below are some of the resources that SJSU Cares can connect students with. Students can set up a meeting or find out more details at sjsu.edu/sjsucares.



REFERRALS

SJSU Cares can refer students to off-campus housing listings, such as Craigslist. University Housing Services maintains a list of websites that students can use to try and find off-campus housing.

Website: housing.sjsu.edu/housingaz/offcampushousingresources/

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

The church has a shelter for SJSU students only, in addition to their shelter for community members. Mohlenhoff described their services as “lifesaving.”

Location: 484 E San Fernando St., across from 10th Street Garage

PATH (PEOPLE ASSISTING THE HOMELESS)

PATH has an office in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Library for students to visit. Mohlenhoff said that PATH is a good resource for students that require more intensive case management.

Location: Room 326, 3rd floor, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Library

BILL WILSON CENTER

In addition to providing housing services, the Bill Wilson Center has a variety of counseling resources available.

Location: 3490 The Alameda, Santa Clara

HOUSE SHARING – CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

While it does cost rent, the house sharing program rates are under market value. Both parties, the renters and landlord, have to undergo background checks. Mohlenhoff refers people interested in helping SJSU students to this program.

AMIGOS DE GUADALUPE

Students can park and live in their cars in East San Jose. Restrooms and showers are also available.

Location: 1897 Alum Rock Ave #35, San Jose



SPARTAN FOOD PANTRY

Students who earn a gross annual income of \$33,385 or less can visit the Spartan Food Pantry once a week to pick up groceries. There are six zones of items that students can choose from, ranging from fresh groceries to toiletries.

Location: Student Union, across from Engineering Rotunda
Time: Monday - Tuesday, 1-6 p.m.; Wednesday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (tentative)

JUST IN TIME MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Once a month, students can go to the Event Center and pick up groceries donated from the Second Harvest Food Bank.

It is unknown whether this will continue after this semester now that the permanent food pantry has opened.

Location: Event Center
Time: May 6 from 10 -11:15 a.m.

CAL FRESH APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

Cal Fresh provides students with monthly cash supplements on a debit card. While anyone can apply by themselves, trained staff and volunteers are available twice a week to help students.

Location: Financial Aid & Scholarship Office (Tuesday), Wellness Lounge (Wednesday)
Time: Tuesday, 1-2:30 p.m., Wednesday, 1-4 p.m.

MEAL PLANS AT DINING COMMONS

In cases of an emergency, SJSU Cares can set students up with a short-term meal plan* in the dining commons.

There’s an all-you-can-eat buffet and students have the option to take out food in an approved container.

*Must meet with Mohlenhoff first

MARTHA’S KITCHEN

A soup kitchen in downtown San Jose where students can join other community members in receiving a hot meal.

Location: 311 Willow St., San Jose
Time: Monday, Thursday and Friday, 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday - Wednesday, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ST. PAUL’S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The church hosts Spartan Community Meals once a week for any student or community member to pick up a free lunch, no questions asked. The food is provided courtesy of Loaves and Fishes.

Location: 405 10th St., San Jose across from Campus Village A
Time: Wednesday, noon to 1 p.m.

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

Students can receive food and other basic needs supplies from the Second Harvest Food Bank.

The Second Harvest Food Bank has an online locator to help students find the closest pick up location to them.

Website: shfb.org

SAFEWAY GIFT CARDS

On an as-needed basis, SJSU Cares has some Safeway gift cards* to give to students so they are able to buy groceries and any other needed supplies.

*Must meet with Mohlenhoff first